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(54) **PULSATING ROTATIONAL FLOW FOR USE
IN WELL OPERATIONS**

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E21B 28/00; E21B 41/00

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E21B 28/00 (2006.01)
E21B 41/00 (2006.01)
E21B 17/20 (2006.01)

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E21B 17/20 (2013.01); **E21B 21/00** (2013.01);
E21B 28/00 (2013.01); **E21B 41/0035**
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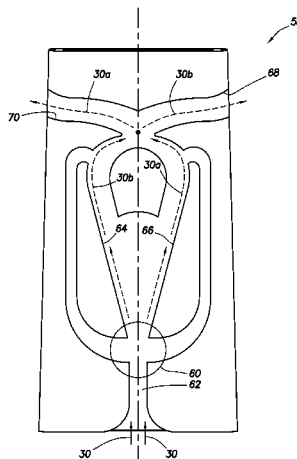
(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC E21B 37/00; E21B 17/20; E21B 41/0078;

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system for use with a subterranean well can include a fluid oscillator which discharges pulsating fluid from a tubular string in a direction at least partially toward an end of the tubular string proximate a surface of the earth. A method can include discharging a fluid from the tubular string, thereby applying a reaction force to the tubular string, which reaction force biases the tubular string at least partially into the well. Another method can include discharging a pulsating fluid from a fluid oscillator in a direction at least partially toward an end of the tubular string, and drilling into an earth formation with a drill bit connected at an opposite end of the tubular string in the well.

18 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



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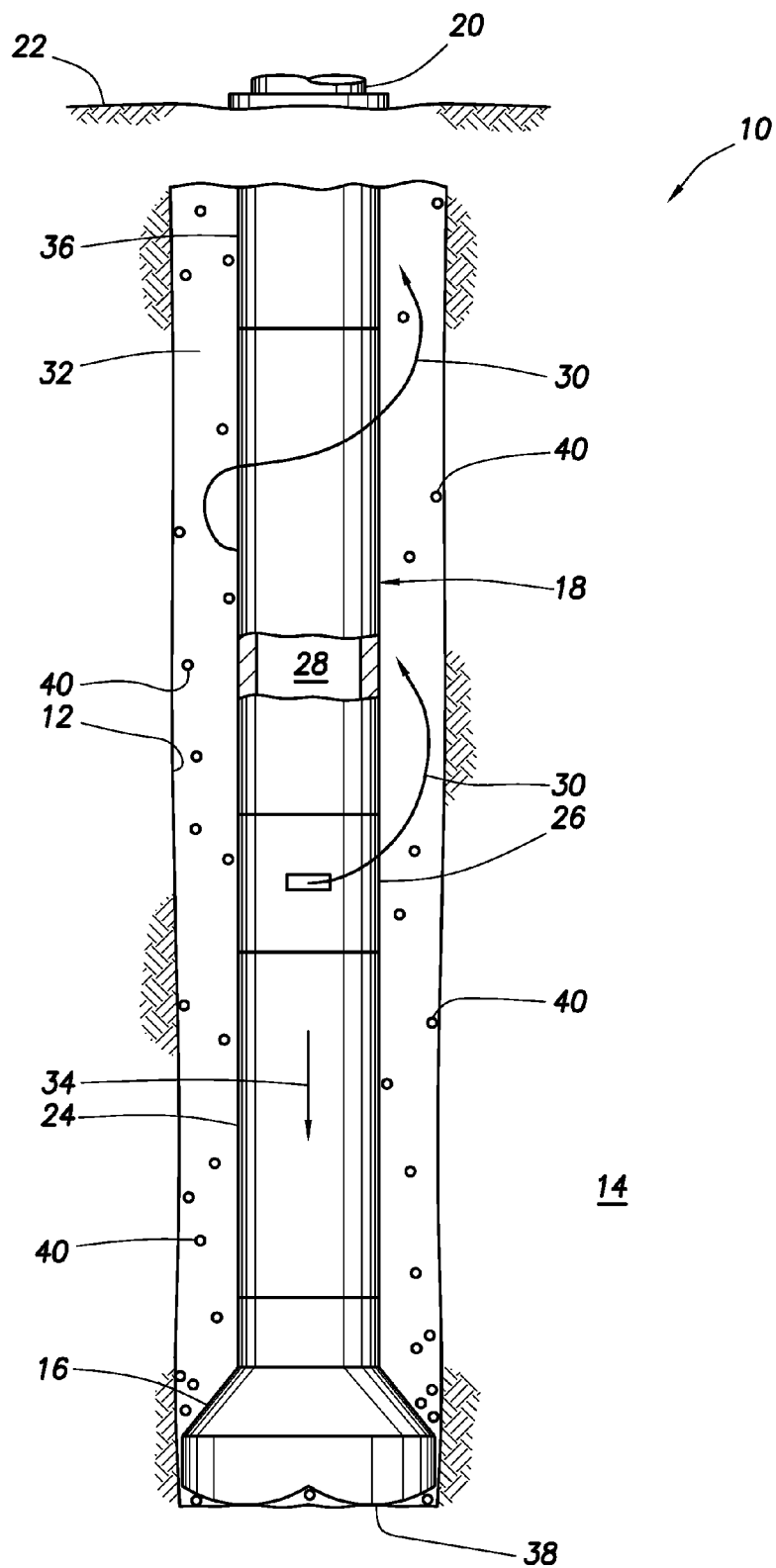


FIG. 1

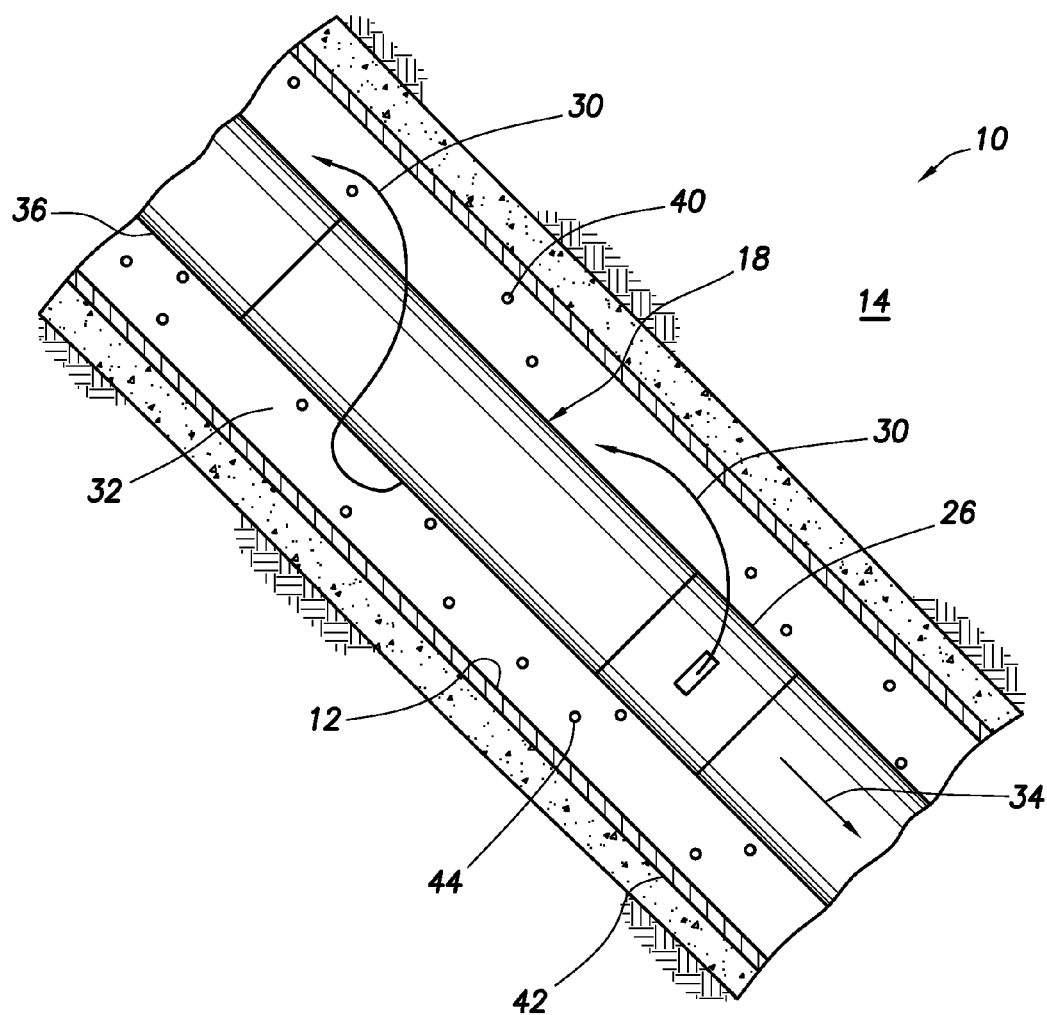


FIG. 2

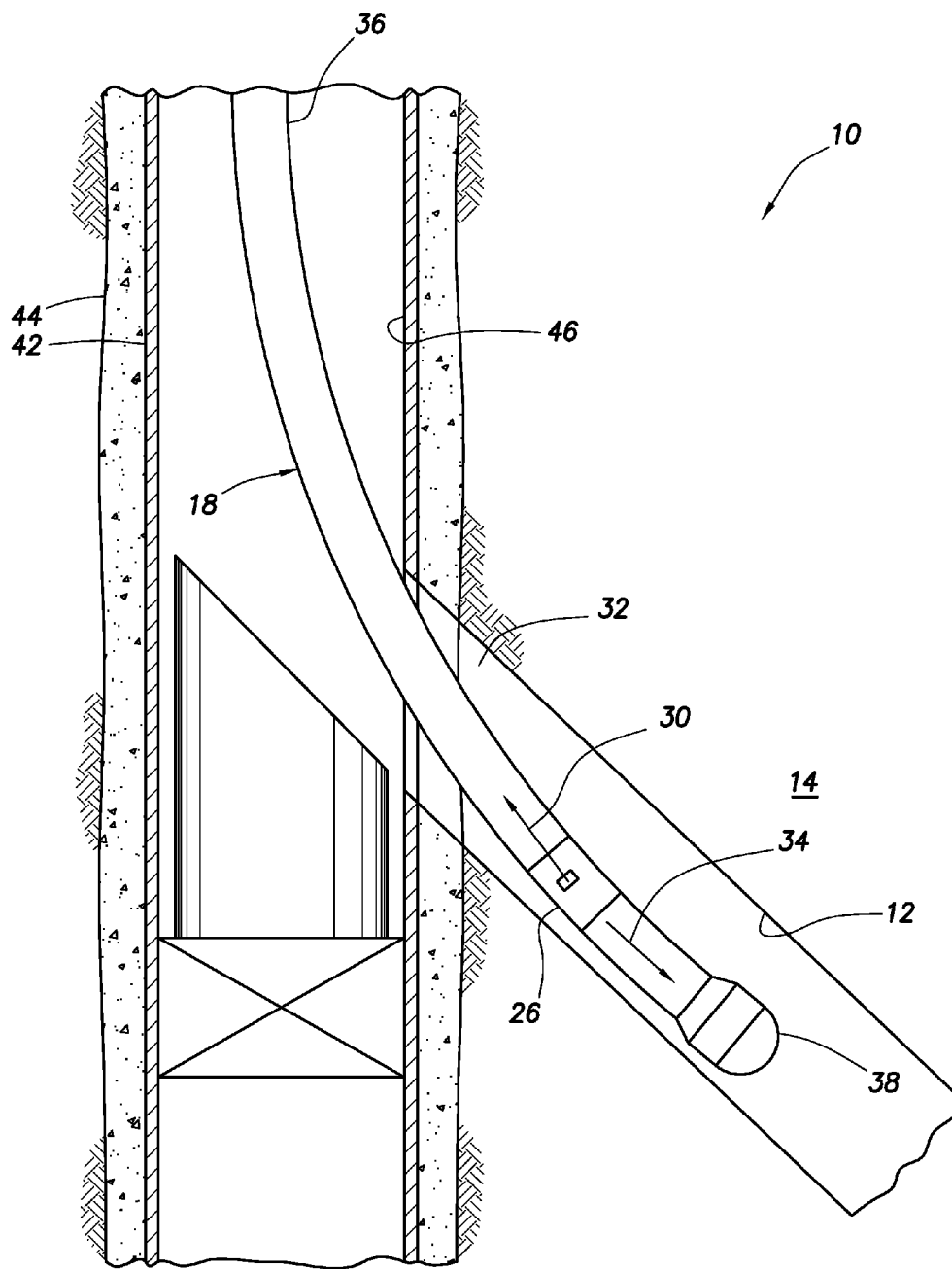


FIG.3

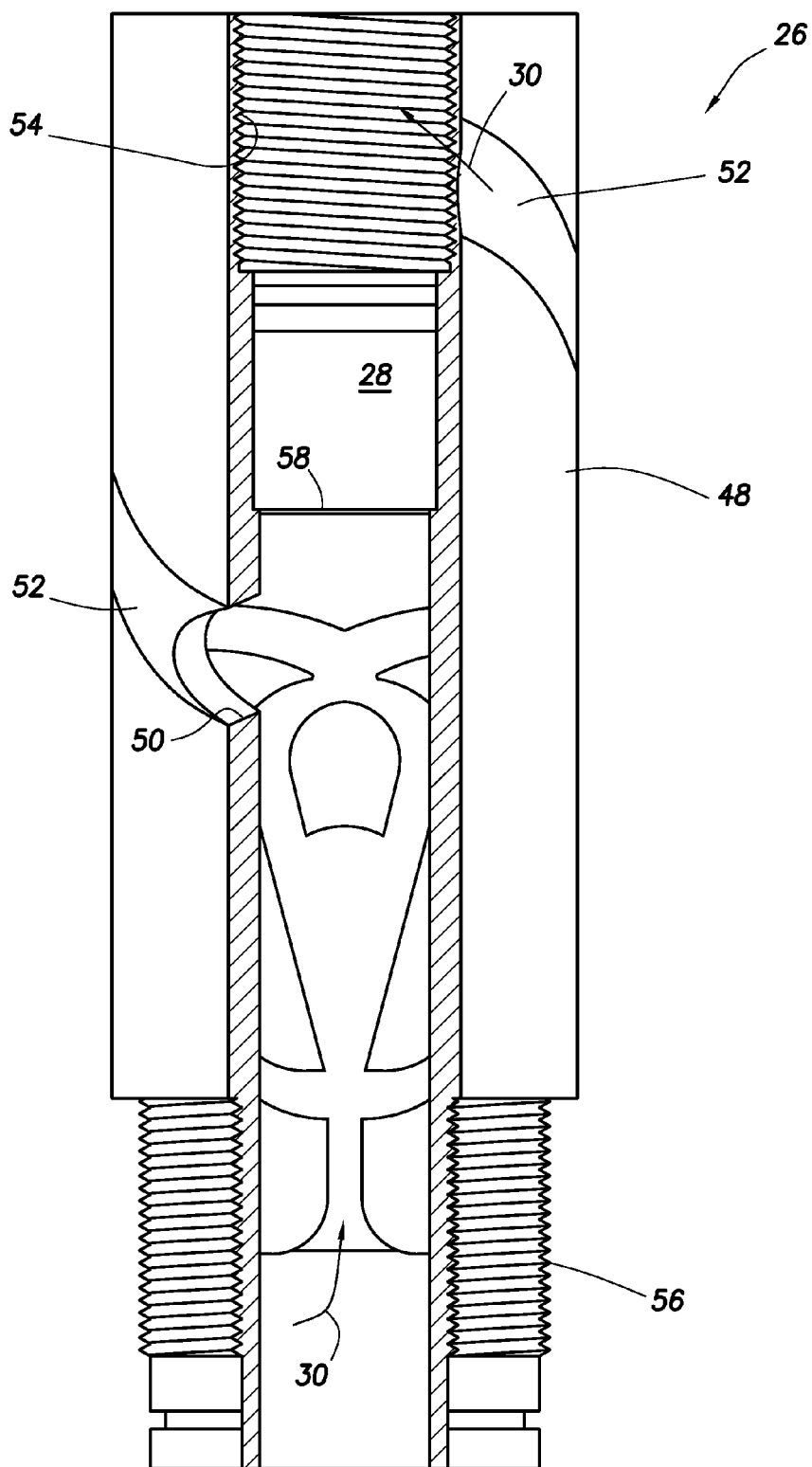


FIG. 4

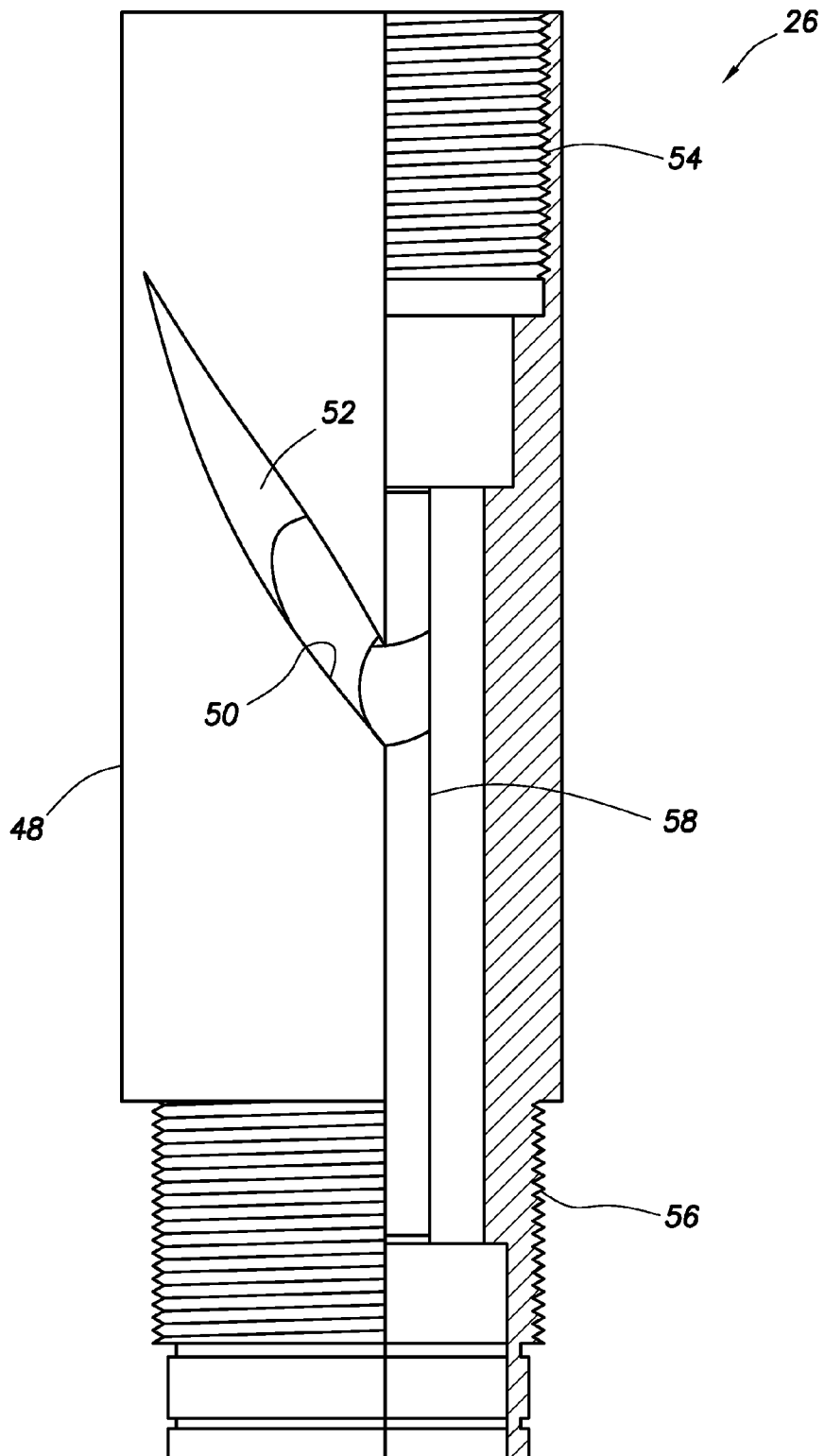


FIG. 5

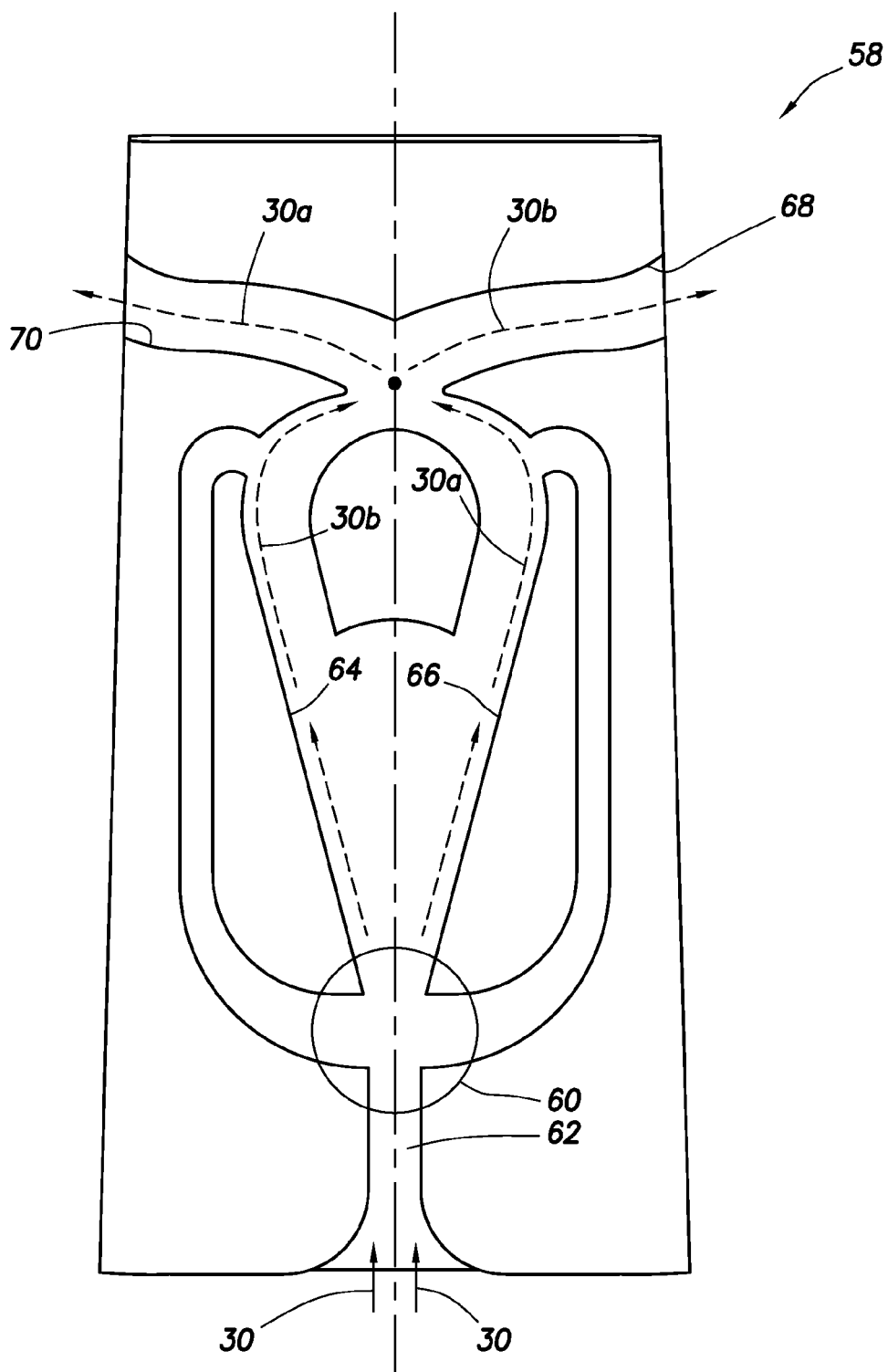


FIG. 6

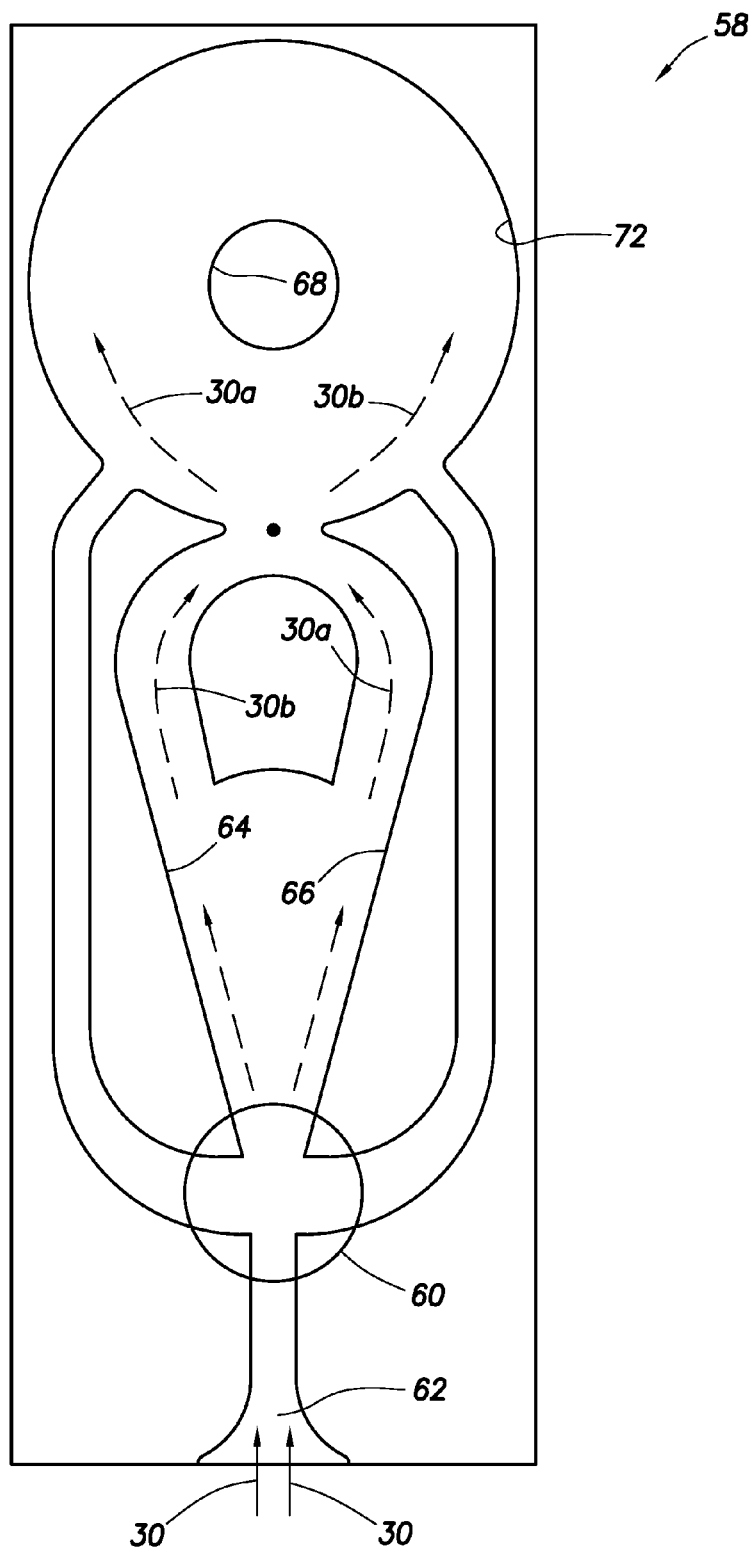


FIG. 7

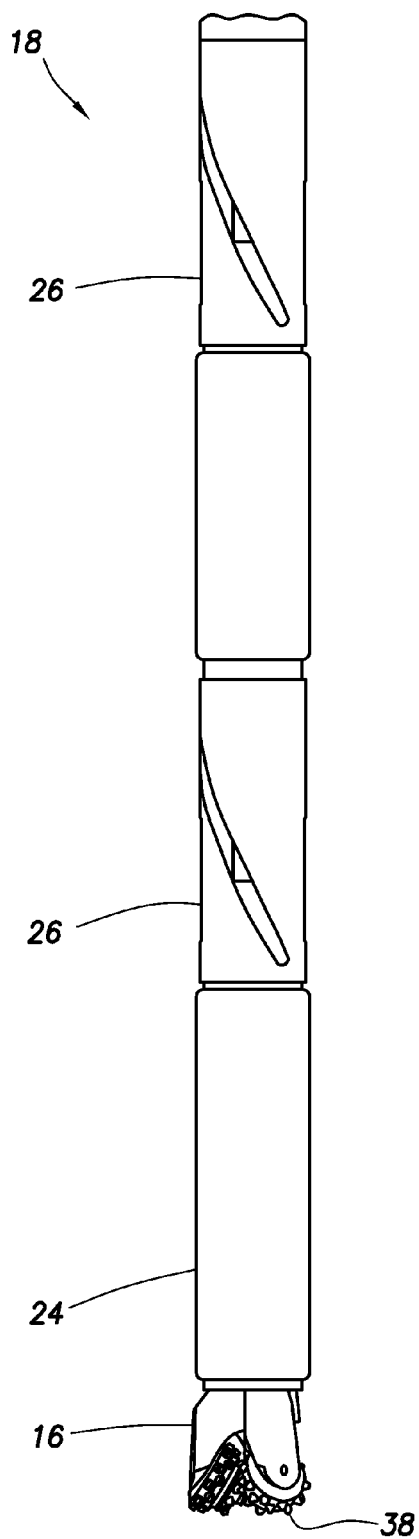


FIG. 8

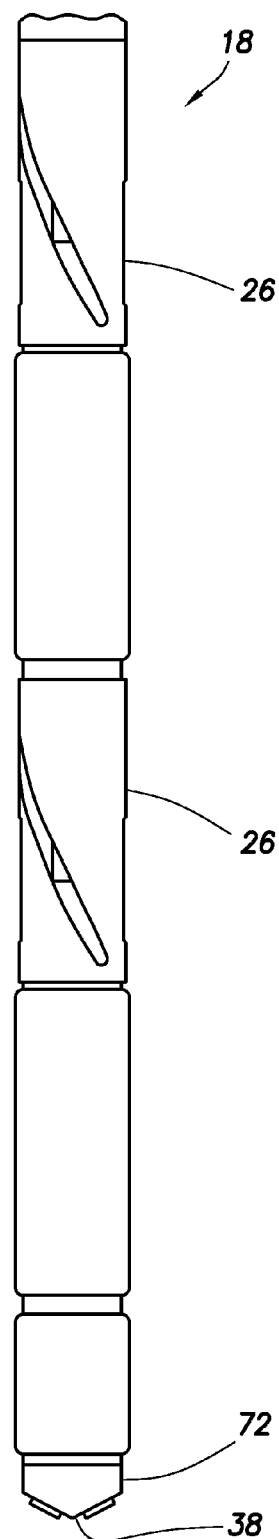


FIG. 9

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PULSATING ROTATIONAL FLOW FOR USE IN WELL OPERATIONS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 13/541,103, filed on 3 Jul. 2012. The entire disclosure of this prior application is incorporated herein by this reference.

BACKGROUND

This disclosure relates generally to equipment utilized and operations performed in conjunction with a subterranean well and, in an example described below, more particularly provides a pulsating rotational flow for use in well operations.

In drilling a well, rock cuttings are produced by a drill bit cutting into a subterranean formation. These cuttings should be carried out of the well, so that drilling can continue. In well cleaning, particulate material produced by the cleaning should be carried out of the well.

In many different types of well operations, it can be difficult to advance a tubular string into the well. For example, if the tubular string comprises coiled tubing, a flexibility of the tubing may prevent it from being pushed into the well.

For the above reasons and others, it will be appreciated that improvements are continually needed in the art.

SUMMARY

In the disclosure below, systems and methods are provided which brings improvements to the art. One example is described below in which a fluid oscillator is configured so that it produces pulsating upward and rotational flow about a tubing string. Several examples are described below in which one or more fluid oscillators are used to enhance drilling, well cleaning and particulate removal operations.

A system for use with a subterranean well is described below. In one example, the system can include a fluid oscillator which discharges pulsating fluid from a tubular string in a direction at least partially toward an end of the tubular string proximate a surface of the earth.

A method for use with a subterranean well is also described below. The method can include discharging a fluid from the tubular string, thereby applying a reaction force to the tubular string, which reaction force biases the tubular string at least partially into the well.

Another method can comprise: discharging a pulsating fluid from a fluid oscillator in a direction at least partially toward an end of the tubular string; and drilling into an earth formation with a drill bit connected at an opposite end of the tubular string in the well.

Yet another method can comprise: discharging a fluid from a tubular string in the well, thereby applying a vibratory reaction force to the tubular string, which reaction force is directed at least partially toward an end of the tubular string in the well.

These and other features, advantages and benefits will become apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art upon careful consideration of the detailed description of representative examples below and the accompanying drawings, in which similar elements are indicated in the various figures using the same reference numbers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a representative partially cross-sectional view of one example of a well system and associated method which can embody principles of this disclosure.

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FIG. 2 is a representative partially cross-sectional view of another example of the system and method.

FIG. 3 is a representative partially cross-sectional view of yet another example of the system and method.

FIG. 4 is a representative partially cross-sectional view of a well tool which can embody the principles of this disclosure.

FIG. 5 is a representative partially cross-sectional side view of the well tool.

FIG. 6 is a representative view of an insert for use in the well tool, the insert having a fluid oscillator formed thereon.

FIG. 7 is a representative view of another example of the insert.

FIG. 8 is a representative side view of a tubular string which may be used in the system and method, and which can embody the principles of this disclosure.

FIG. 9 is a representative side view of another example of the tubular string.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Representatively illustrated in FIG. 1 is an example of a system **10** and associated method which can embody principles of this disclosure. However, it should be clearly understood that the system **10** and method are merely one example of an application of the principles of this disclosure in practice, and a wide variety of other examples are possible. Therefore, the scope of this disclosure is not limited at all to the details of the system **10** and method described herein and/or depicted in the drawings.

In the FIG. 1 example, a wellbore **12** is being drilled so that it penetrates an earth formation **14**. For this purpose, a drill bit **16** is connected to a tubular string **18** in the wellbore **12**. An upper end **20** of the tubular string **18** extends to a location at or near the earth's surface **22** (such as, a land rig, a subsea wellhead, a drill ship or platform, etc.).

Rotation of the drill bit **16** (in conjunction with weight or other force applied to the tubular string **18**) may cause it to cut into the formation **14**. In that case, the drill bit **16** could be rotated by rotating the tubular string **18** from the surface **22** (e.g., using a rotary table or a top drive, etc.), and/or the drill bit could be rotated by means of a fluid motor **24** (such as a Moineau-type or a turbine-type mud motor) interconnected in the tubular string **18**.

Alternatively, or in addition, the drill bit **16** could cut into the formation **14** due to impacts delivered to the drill bit. For example, a hammer drill could be used. Thus, it will be appreciated that the scope of this disclosure is not limited to any particular type of drilling operation and, indeed, is not limited to drilling operations at all.

The tubular string **18** could have additional components, or fewer or different components, in keeping with the scope of this disclosure. For example, reamers, stabilizers, directional drilling equipment, measurement-while-drilling (MWD) equipment, logging-while-drilling (LWD) equipment, pressure-while-drilling (PWD) equipment and/or telemetry components could be included. The tubular string **18** could be equipped with lines (e.g., electrical, optical, hydraulic, etc., lines) in a sidewall thereof, or in an internal flow passage **28** of the tubular string. Therefore, it will be appreciated that the scope of this disclosure is not limited to any particular type or configuration of the tubular string **18**.

In the FIG. 1 example, a fluid oscillator **26** is interconnected in the tubular string **18**. The fluid oscillator **26** is longitudinally spaced apart from the drill bit **16**, with the fluid motor **24** being interconnected between the fluid oscillator and the drill bit.

However, this configuration is not necessary in keeping with the scope of this disclosure. For example, the fluid oscillator **26** could be adjacent to, or part of, the drill bit **16** or fluid motor **24**.

In other examples, the drill bit **16** and fluid motor **24** may not be used. Thus, the scope of this disclosure is not limited to any particular arrangement or combination of components in the tubular string **18**.

A fluid **30** is flowed through the passage **28** to the fluid oscillator **26**. The fluid oscillator **26** produces pulsations in the flow of the fluid **30**, and discharges the fluid into an annulus **32** formed radially between the tubular string **18** and the wellbore **12**.

A suitable manner of producing pulsations in the flow of the fluid **30** is described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/215,572, filed 23 Aug. 2011. However, in the system **10** of FIG. **1**, the fluid **30** is discharged upward, or at least partially in a direction toward the upper end **20** of the tubular string **18**, which produces significant benefits.

The pulsating flow of the fluid **30** enhances a cleaning effect of the discharged fluid in the annulus **32**. In addition, since the flow is pulsing, a resulting reaction force **34** applied to the tubular string **18** is vibratory. This vibratory reaction force **34** applied to the drill bit **16** can enhance its cutting action.

The reaction force **34** can also bias the tubular string **18** to advance into the wellbore **12** as drilling progresses. This can be particularly useful where the tubular string **18** comprises coiled tubing **36** (e.g., tubing that is wrapped on a spool prior to being deployed into a well), the wellbore **12** is inclined from vertical, etc.

In the FIG. **1** example, the fluid oscillator **26** discharges the fluid **30** toward the upper end **20** of the tubular string **18**, and away from a lower end **38** at which the drill bit **16** is connected. In addition, the fluid oscillator **26** preferably discharges the fluid **30** so that it flows rotationally about the tubular string **18**. Thus, the fluid **30** flows generally helically in the annulus **32**.

This helical flow can enhance a lifting of particulate matter **40** (e.g., drill cuttings, debris, sand, etc.) from the wellbore **12** with the fluid **30**. In particular, the helical flow of the fluid **30** can mitigate convective effects in the annulus **32** (which can accelerate settling of the particulate matter **40**), in cases where the wellbore **12** is inclined from vertical.

The vibration of the tubular string **18** can enhance the removal of the particulate matter **40** via the annulus **32**, thereby aiding the cleaning process. Since the pulsating flow of the fluid **30** can be axially and/or rotationally directed, the resultant reaction force **34** (and associated vibration of the tubular string **18**) can also be axially and/or rotationally directed. In particular, it is contemplated that a combination of axial and rotational (e.g., helical) vibration can help with sweeping the particulate matter **40** up the annulus **32** toward the surface **22**.

Referring additionally now to FIG. **2**, another example of the system **10** and method is representatively illustrated. The FIG. **2** example is similar in many respects to the FIG. **1** example. However, one significant difference in the FIG. **2** example is that the wellbore **12** is inclined (e.g., deviated) from vertical, and is lined with casing **42** and cement **44**.

A drilling operation is not necessarily performed in the FIG. **2** example. Instead, in the FIG. **2** example it may be desired for the fluid **30** to carry the particulate matter **40** through the annulus **32**, e.g., to clean the wellbore **12** of debris, sand, etc.

In some examples, the fluid oscillator **26** may be used to clean one or more well surfaces (such as, a surface of the

formation **14** exposed to the wellbore **12**, an interior of the casing **42**, perforations (not shown), well screens (not shown), a perforated liner (not shown), etc.). Any surface in the well may be cleaned by the discharged fluid **30**, in keeping with the scope of this disclosure.

The pulsations (e.g., flow and/or pressure fluctuations) in the flow of the fluid **30** enhance a cleaning effect of the discharged fluid. The pulsations can also enhance a penetration of the fluid **30** into the formation **14**.

The vibratory reaction force **34** can be useful in the FIG. **2** example to produce a mechanical cleaning effect (e.g., localized vibration of the casing **42**, etc.). Alternatively, or in addition, the reaction force **34** can bias the tubular string **18** to advance through the wellbore **12** in a direction opposite to the direction in which the fluid **30** is discharged from the fluid oscillator **26**.

Referring additionally now to FIG. **3**, another example of the system **10** and method is representatively illustrated. In this example, the wellbore **12** is a lateral or branch of another main or "parent" wellbore **46**.

The lower end **38** of the tubular string **18** is to be deflected from the parent wellbore **46** into the branch wellbore **12**. If the tubular string **18** is relatively flexible (for example, where the tubular string comprises coiled tubing **36** or another relatively flexible tubing), and/or the branch wellbore is a relatively long distance from the surface **22**, and/or a substantial horizontal distance must be traversed, etc., it can be difficult to reliably deflect the lower end **38** of the tubular string into the wellbore **12**.

However, with the fluid oscillator **26** interconnected in the tubular string **18** and discharging the fluid **30** upward (e.g., toward the surface end **20** of the tubular string), the reaction force **34** biases the lower end **38** downward (e.g., toward the lower end **38**), thereby facilitating the deflection of the tubular string from the parent wellbore **46** into the branch wellbore **12**. In addition, the reaction force **34** will continue to bias the tubular string **18** to advance through the wellbore **12**, as long as the fluid **30** is discharged toward the surface end of the tubular string.

Referring additionally now to FIGS. **4** & **5**, partially cross-sectional views of one example of the fluid oscillator **26** are representatively illustrated. The fluid oscillator **26** depicted in FIGS. **4** & **5** may be used in the system **10** and method examples described above, or they may be used in other systems and methods.

In the FIGS. **4** & **5** example, the fluid oscillator **26** includes a generally tubular housing **48** having ports **50** formed through a sidewall thereof. Only one of the ports **50** is visible, but in a preferred embodiment, two ports are provided, diametrically opposed to each other. Any number of ports **50** may be used in keeping with the scope of this disclosure.

The ports **50** are positioned at lower upstream ends of helical recesses or channels **52** formed in the housing **48**. In this manner, fluid discharged from the ports **50** is directed to flow helically upward about the housing **48**.

The housing **48** has end connections **54**, **56** for connecting to other components of the tubular string **18**. In the FIGS. **4** & **5** example, the end connections **54**, **56** are sealed and threaded connections, but other types of connections may be used, if desired. For example, the housing **48** could be integrally formed with a housing of the drill bit **16** or fluid motor **24**, etc.

When interconnected in the tubular string **18**, the tubular string flow passage **28** extends at least partially through the fluid oscillator **26**. In this manner, flow of the fluid **30** through the tubular string **18** causes the fluid to also flow through an insert **58** contained in the housing **48**, whereby the insert

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produces pulsations in the flow of the fluid prior to it being discharged via the ports **50** and channels **52**.

The insert **58** may be similar to any of the inserts described in the U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/215,572 mentioned above, except that, in the FIGS. **4** & **5** example, the fluid **30** is discharged from the fluid oscillator **26** in a direction toward the surface end **20** of the tubular string **18**. However, any means of producing pulsations in the flow of the fluid **30** may be used, in keeping with the scope of this disclosure.

In the FIGS. **4** & **5** example, the fluid **30** enters the insert **58** at a lower end thereof, and is alternately discharged from opposite lateral sides of the insert. Fluidics, as opposed to moving elements, is preferably used to cause the alternating flow of the fluid **30**.

In other examples, the flow of the fluid **30** could be pulsed or fluctuated without it also alternating between the discharge ports **50**, and/or one or more moving elements could be used. Therefore, it will be appreciated that the scope of this disclosure is not limited to any particular way of causing pulsations or fluctuations in the flow of the fluid **30**.

Representatively illustrated in FIG. **6** is one example of the insert **58**. The FIG. **6** example is similar to an insert described in the U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/215,572 mentioned above. However, in the FIG. **6** example, alternating flows **30a,b** of the fluid **30** are discharged at least partially upward from opposite lateral sides of the insert **58**.

The flows **30a,b** alternate by action of a fluid switch **60** which receives the fluid **30** from an inlet **62** at a lower end of the insert. The fluid switch **60** directs the fluid **30** to flow alternately along surfaces **64**, **66**, enhanced by the well-known Coanda effect.

Outlets **68**, **70** of the insert **58** are aligned with the ports **50** in the housing **48**. Thus, the fluid **30** is alternately discharged from the ports **50**, in the FIG. **6** example.

Referring additionally now to FIG. **7**, another example of the insert **58** is representatively illustrated. The FIG. **7** example shares some features with the FIG. **6** example, but in the FIG. **7** example the fluid **30** is not alternately discharged from multiple outlets **68**, **70**.

Instead, after alternately flowing along the surfaces **64**, **66**, the flows **30a,b** enter a vortex chamber **72** prior to being discharged from an outlet **68**. The flows **30a,b** in the chamber **72** alternately "spin up" in opposite directions, and so a varying frequency of the pulsations or oscillations in the flow of the fluid **30** exiting the outlet **68** is produced.

Referring additionally now to FIG. **8**, another example of the tubular string **18** is representatively illustrated. This example may be used in the system **10** and method examples described above, or it may be used with other systems and methods.

In the FIG. **8** example, multiple fluid oscillators **26** are interconnected in the tubular string **18**. Any number of fluid oscillators **26** may be used, as desired.

The fluid oscillators **26** could be connected in series and/or in parallel. For example, pulsating flow output from an upper fluid oscillator **26** could be input to a next lower fluid oscillator, so that the output from the lower fluid oscillator is enhanced (e.g., with a complex compound pulsation, etc.).

As another example, each fluid oscillator **26** could be similarly connected between the flow passage **28** and the annulus **32**, so that their outputs are substantially the same. Any manner of connecting the fluid oscillators **26** to each other, to the flow passage **28** and to the annulus **32** may be used, in keeping with the scope of this disclosure.

Preferably, the fluid oscillators **26** are configured and connected so that a capability of the fluid **30** to fluidize and carry the particulate matter **40** (e.g., drill cuttings, etc.) through the

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annulus **32** is enhanced. In addition, the vibratory reaction force **34** produced by the discharge of the fluid **30** from the fluid oscillators **26** is preferably generated so that the cleaning process is enhanced, cutting efficiency of the drill bit **16** is enhanced, and/or displacement of the tubular string **18** through the wellbore **12** is enhanced.

Referring additionally now to FIG. **9**, another example of the tubular string **18** is representatively illustrated. In this example, the tubular string **18** includes a cleaning tool **72** connected at the lower end **38**, instead of the drill bit **16**. Similar to the FIG. **8** example, the FIG. **9** example includes multiple fluid oscillators **26** interconnected in the tubular string **18**.

The cleaning tool **72** could be a jet-type cleaning tool used, for example, for cleaning well screens, gravel packs, perforations, etc. Any type of cleaning tool, or any other type of well tool, may be used in keeping with the scope of this disclosure.

Preferably, the fluid oscillators **26** are configured and connected so that a capability of the fluid **30** to fluidize and carry the particulate matter **40** (e.g., debris, sand, etc. dislodged by the cleaning tool **72**) through the annulus **32** is enhanced. In addition, the vibratory reaction force **34** produced by the discharge of the fluid **30** from the fluid oscillators **26** is preferably generated so that the cleaning process is enhanced, and displacement of the tubular string **18** through the wellbore **12** is enhanced. Furthermore, suitably connected, the fluid oscillators **26** can deliver an output of pulsating flow to the cleaning tool **72**, thereby enhancing the cleaning operation.

It may now be fully appreciated that the above disclosure provides significant advancements to the art. In some examples described above, the fluid **30** is discharged upwardly from the tubular string **18**, thereby producing the downwardly directed reaction force **34**, which can enhance drilling, displacement of the tubular string through the wellbore **12**, etc. In some examples, the flow of the fluid **30** is also rotational about the tubular string **18**, so that a capability of the fluid **30** to carry the particulate matter **40** through the annulus **32** is enhanced. In some examples, the flow of the fluid **30** is made to pulsate by the fluid oscillator **26**, thereby varying the reaction force **34**, enhancing a cleaning effect and producing other benefits.

A system **10** for use with a subterranean well is described above. In one example, the system **10** comprises a fluid oscillator **26** which discharges pulsating fluid **30** from a tubular string **18** in a first direction at least partially toward a first end **20** of the tubular string **18** proximate a surface **22** of the earth.

The fluid oscillator **26** may also discharge the pulsating fluid **30** rotationally about the tubular string **18**.

The tubular string **18** may be positioned in a wellbore **12** inclined relative to vertical.

The discharged fluid **30** may carry particulate matter **40** through an annulus **32** formed between the tubular string **18** and a wellbore **12**.

Discharge of the pulsating fluid **30** from the tubular string **18** can produce a vibratory reaction force **34** applied to the tubular string **18** in a second direction opposite to the first direction. The second direction is preferably toward a second end of the tubular string **18**, the second end being inserted into the well. The second direction may be toward a drill bit **16** connected at a second end **38** of the tubular string **18**.

The tubular string **18** may comprise a coiled tubing **36**. However, use of coiled tubing **36** is not necessary, in keeping with the scope of this disclosure.

Discharge of the fluid **30** from the tubular string **18** may apply a reaction force **34** to the tubular string **18**, which reaction force **34** at least partially biases the tubular string **18** into the well.

The discharged fluid **18** may be used to clean a well surface. The well surface could be a surface of the formation **14** exposed to the wellbore **12**, an interior of the casing **42**, perforations (not shown), well screens (not shown), a perforated liner (not shown), or another surface of the well.

Also described above is a method for use with a subterranean well. In one example, the method comprises discharging a fluid **30** from a tubular string **18** in the well, thereby applying a reaction force **34** to the tubular string **18**, which reaction force **34** biases the tubular string **18** at least partially into the well.

The discharging step can include discharging the fluid **30** in a direction at least partially toward an end **20** of the tubular string **18** proximate a surface **22** of the earth.

The discharging step may include discharging the fluid **30** from a fluid oscillator **26**, flowing the fluid **30** rotationally about the tubular string **18**, and/or producing pulsations in a flow of the fluid **30**.

The discharging step can include the discharged fluid **30** carrying particulate matter **40** through an annulus **32** formed between the tubular string **18** and a wellbore **12**.

The discharging step may include pulsing the fluid **30**, whereby the reaction force **34** is vibratory.

The reaction force **34** may be applied to the tubular string **18** at least partially toward an end **38** of the tubular string **18** in the well, and/or toward a drill bit **16** connected at an end **38** of the tubular string **18**.

Another method is described above. In this example, the method can include discharging a pulsating fluid **30** from a fluid oscillator **26** in a first direction at least partially toward a first end **20** of the tubular string **18**; and drilling into an earth formation **14** with a drill bit **16** connected at a second end **38** of the tubular string **18** in the well.

Yet another method can comprise discharging a fluid **30** from a tubular string **18** in the well, thereby applying a vibratory reaction force **34** to the tubular string **18**. The reaction force **34** is directed at least partially toward an end **38** of the tubular string **18** in the well.

The reaction force **34** can be helically directed. The vibratory reaction force **34** can be used to clean a well surface.

Although various examples have been described above, with each example having certain features, it should be understood that it is not necessary for a particular feature of one example to be used exclusively with that example. Instead, any of the features described above and/or depicted in the drawings can be combined with any of the examples, in addition to or in substitution for any of the other features of those examples. One example's features are not mutually exclusive to another example's features. Instead, the scope of this disclosure encompasses any combination of any of the features.

Although each example described above includes a certain combination of features, it should be understood that it is not necessary for all features of an example to be used. Instead, any of the features described above can be used, without any other particular feature or features also being used.

It should be understood that the various embodiments described herein may be utilized in various orientations, such as inclined, inverted, horizontal, vertical, etc., and in various configurations, without departing from the principles of this disclosure. The embodiments are described merely as

examples of useful applications of the principles of the disclosure, which is not limited to any specific details of these embodiments.

In the above description of the representative examples, directional terms (such as "above," "below," "upper," "lower," etc.) are used for convenience in referring to the accompanying drawings. For example, the term "upward" is sometimes used above to refer to a direction along the tubular string **18** toward the surface end **20** of the tubular string, and the term "downward" is sometimes used above to refer to a direction along the tubular string **18** toward the downhole end **38** of the tubular string. However, it should be clearly understood that the scope of this disclosure is not limited to any particular directions described herein.

The terms "including," "includes," "comprising," "comprises," and similar terms are used in a non-limiting sense in this specification. For example, if a system, method, apparatus, device, etc., is described as "including" a certain feature or element, the system, method, apparatus, device, etc., can include that feature or element, and can also include other features or elements. Similarly, the term "comprises" is considered to mean "comprises, but is not limited to."

Of course, a person skilled in the art would, upon a careful consideration of the above description of representative embodiments of the disclosure, readily appreciate that many modifications, additions, substitutions, deletions, and other changes may be made to the specific embodiments, and such changes are contemplated by the principles of this disclosure. For example, structures disclosed as being separately formed can, in other examples, be integrally formed and vice versa. Accordingly, the foregoing detailed description is to be clearly understood as being given by way of illustration and example only, the spirit and scope of the invention being limited solely by the appended claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A system for use with a subterranean well, the system comprising:

- a fluid oscillator which discharges pulsating fluid from a tubular string in a first direction at least partially toward a first end of the tubular string proximate a surface of the earth; and
- a fluid switch to control selection of a port from among a plurality of ports to discharge the pulsating fluid from the tubular string in the first direction, each port arranged to discharge the pulsating fluid from the tubular string in the first direction at least partially toward the first end of the tubular string proximate the surface of the earth.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the fluid oscillator also discharges the pulsating fluid rotationally about the tubular string.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the tubular string is positioned in a wellbore inclined relative to vertical.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the discharged fluid carries particulate matter through an annulus formed between the tubular string and a wellbore.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein discharge of the pulsating fluid from the tubular string produces a vibratory reaction force applied to the tubular string in a second direction opposite to the first direction.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the second direction is toward a second end of the tubular string, the second end being inserted into the well.

7. The system of claim 5, wherein the second direction is toward a drill bit connected at a second end of the tubular string.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the tubular string comprises a coiled tubing.

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9. The system of claim 1, wherein discharge of the fluid from the tubular string applies a reaction force to the tubular string, which reaction force at least partially biases the tubular string into the well.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the discharged fluid cleans a well surface.

11. A method for use with a subterranean well, the method comprising:

discharging, using a fluid oscillator, a pulsating fluid from a tubular string in a first direction at least partially toward a first end of the tubular string;

controlling, using a fluid switch, selection of a port from among a plurality of ports to discharge the pulsating fluid from the tubular string in the first direction, each port arranged to discharge the pulsating fluid from the tubular string in the first direction at least partially toward the first end of the tubular string proximate the surface of the earth; and

drilling into an earth formation with a drill bit connected at a second end of the tubular string in the well.

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12. The method of claim 11, wherein the fluid oscillator also discharges the pulsating fluid rotationally about the tubular string.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the tubular string is positioned in a wellbore inclined relative to vertical during the discharging.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the discharged fluid carries drill cuttings through an annulus formed between the tubular string and a wellbore.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the discharging further comprises producing a vibratory reaction force applied to the tubular string in a second direction opposite to the first direction.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the second direction is at least partially toward the second end of the tubular string.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the tubular string comprises a coiled tubing.

18. The method of claim 11, wherein the discharging applies a reaction force to the tubular string, which reaction force at least partially biases the tubular string into the well.

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